

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am & 11 am
Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm
Tuesday & Friday: 9.30 am
Fr. Michael Keohane Co-PP



Baptism

Oliver Liam Doolan.
Caoimhe Margaret Murphy.
Mark Edward Nolan.



We welcome them into the Christian Family

Praying and Remembering

During the week we celebrated a poignant and beautiful Remembrance Mass here in the church in memory of those who died during the past year. There was a very big attendance as we prayed together. Families were very grateful for the opportunity to gather together in this way. We will continue our Holy Souls Novena at Masses this weekend and at 9.30am Mass on Monday – Friday of this coming week.

While covid has changed many things especially in the way that we sympathise with the bereaved and attend funerals, our Parish Remembrance Mass illustrated once again the power of prayer for those who have died and our wish to be together in times of loss and sorrow. It is comforting and reassuring to be part of this and know that our faith gives us strength.

May those who have died now rest in the peace of the Lord.

Fr. Michael.



BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Fr. Michael has generously offered the poor box near the exit as a collection point for SVP.
If you wish to contribute any time, it would be appreciated.

Do This in Memory Programme

This parish-based preparation programme for second class children and their families preparing for the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion will begin on Saturday 11th November at 6pm Mass.

First Friday Holy Communion Visits

If you know of someone who would really love to receive Holy Communion in their home because they are unable to come to Mass, you might let Fr. Michael know or call to the sacristy to do so.

Family of Parishes

This weekend, we welcome Mgr. Gearóid Dullea to celebrate Weekend Masses with us. Fr. Michael will celebrate the 6pm Parish Remembrance Mass on Saturday evening in Holy Cross and Sunday morning Masses in the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes in Ballinlough as priests of the Family of Parishes 'rotate' on the first weekend of each month. This is also a way of building up our team of priests within the Family of Parishes of Ballinlough, Blackrock, Blackrock Road and Mahon.



The Blessing of the Graves at St James' Cemetery, Chetwynd, Togher, will take place on Sunday 5th November, at 3.00pm

Resources for our Time of Crisis.

There are huge resources available on www.tarsus.ie relating to the War in the Holy Land, the roots of the Israel-Palastine conflict and a reflection by Fr Laurence Freeman OSB, recently returned from the Holy Land.

BLACKROCK ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Church Gate collection will take place on **Week ending 4/5th November 2023**
Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

Sunday Cuppa continues in the Parish Centre after 11 am mass on **5th November** for tea and refreshments and more chat!
Everyone welcome!



November Novena for the Dead

Mass for the November Novena will be celebrated each weekday morning from Thursday 2nd - Friday 10th November this year. November Lists and envelopes are available in the church for this.

Reflections

1. When our actions match our words about gospel values, then our words carry more weight. Recall people whom you admired for this quality. Perhaps your own experience at times confirms this.

2. Jesus also has hard words for those whose priority lies in cultivating flattery and attention. Even for the people honoured such words and gestures can have an empty feeling. How much better for us to be comfortable in our own skin, recognising our goodness, and acknowledging our limitations.

3. Our passage ends with a paradox. Those who exalt themselves will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be exalted. For Jesus, the way to greatness and a full life is through service of others. When have you found the way of service brought unexpected rewards?

PRAYER

*Sovereign God, we have no father but you, no teacher but Christ. Conform our lives to the faith we profess, preserve us from arrogance and pride, and teach us in Christ the greatness of humility and service.
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.*

INTERFAITH PRAYER FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND

God, you are the shepherd of Israel and Palestine. We pray to you as our faithful God of mercy, compassion and steadfast love. We are a people who desire peace and fear war. Change the hearts of those plotting death, destruction and devastation. Convert the souls of those who are motivated by violence and vengeance.

For our God is the child desperate for water, and is the same God of the family terrified for their precious hostages. God is in all souls. God waits on every path.

Today, the valley of the shadow of death is crowded with God's children, who want to sit down at God's table, as people who share the Holy Book, who live and dwell in the Holy Land, and who can trace a shared past - back to Abraham. Help us to see that what we share together in common is so much more than what divides us,

May we speak healing words, to share an anointing of peace and to shatter the overflowing cup of death, before more is poured out on those who are innocent.

Goodness and mercy will follow us even in these days of fear and grief. May we build your house of reconciliation and peace, to dwell in it together.

You may be using your mobile phone for Mass, if so, please ensure it is on silent. If not, please switch it off. Thank you



Unfolding the Word: An Invitation to our Family of Parishes Why not join us on **Thursdays 9, 16, 23, 30 November** here in the Parish room in Holy Cross, Mahon from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm. An opportunity to come together and spend some time reading and discussing the Scriptures, followed by prayer. Everyone is most welcome and we even have a cuppa and chat afterwards as well!

Thought for the day

Leadership is an issue in our world today: home, work, society, church. Two of our readings are quite stark critiques—the priests in the temple and the Pharisees of Jesus' day. There's plenty to reflect on for us today. Jesus does offer an alternative and we see that alternative in action in the second reading. Paul was a passionate pastor, who clearly loved those he served and gave himself fully to them and for them. He could be upset, as well, and angry at times, but always because he cared so deeply. For most of us not in leadership, the question is how can we help those in leadership to fulfil their role in a gospel manner?

Prayer

Good shepherd, bless the shepherds who care for us in your name. Help us also to know how we can enable truly Christian leadership in our time.
K O'Mahony OSA

ENTRANCE - Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
This grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

RECESSIONAL – Hail Queen of Heaven

Hail, Queen of heav'n, the ocean Star:
Guide of the wand'r'er here below,
Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care;
Save us from peril and from woe.
Mother of Christ, Star of the Sea,
Pray for the wand'r'er, pray for me.

O gentle, chaste, and spotless Maid,
We sinners make our prayers through thee;
Remind thy Son that He has paid
The price of our iniquity.
Virgin most pure, Star of the sea,
Pray for the sinner, pray for me.

PARISH DEFIBRILLATORS

There are 2 Defibrillators located in the Parish, one in the village & one outside Murphy's Circle K PetrolStation. The code to operate both is 2017

If you would like to receive a weekly commentary on the Weekly Scripture Readings, both in AUDIO, VIDEO and in PDF, please log on to www.tarsus.ie and register to receive the emails. **K O'Mahony OSA**